DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GEORGIA

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

FILE

P. I. No. 122090-, Rabun County

OFFICE Preconstruction

EDS-441(28)

US 441/SR 15 Improvements

DATE

January 2, 2007

FROM

Genetha Rice-Singleton, Assistant Director of Preconstruction

TO

SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT APPROVED REVISED PROJECT CONCEPT REPORT

Attached for your files is the approval for subject project.

GRS/cj

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION:

Brian Summers

Harvey Keepler

Ken Thompson

Jamie Simpson

Michael Henry

Keith Golden

Joe Palladi (file copy)

Babs Abubakari

Russell McMurry

BOARD MEMBER

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GEORGIA

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

FILE:

EDS-441(28)

P.I. No.: 122090

Rabun County

DATE: December 15, 2006 Harvey D. Keepler, State Environmental/Location Engineer

TO:

FROM:

Genetha Rice-Singleton, Assistant Director of Preconstruction

SUBJECT:

Revised Project Concept Report - US 441/SR 15 Improvements, Rabun County

Attached is the original copy of the Revised Concept Report for your further handling for approval in accordance with the Plan Development Process (PDP).

In order to accommodate bike lanes and minimize social impacts along US 441/SR 15, it is recommended to revise the typical sections and proposed right-of-way of EDS-441(28) in Rabun County. This portion of US 441/SR 15 is part of designated State Bicycle Route (SBR) 85. It is also recommended that any necessary design variances be requested during the design phase for a proposed context sensitive design through Dillard and a median opening at the existing US 441/SR 15 and Cross Street intersection. It is recommended that during the design phase the use of retaining walls be evaluated in major cut areas in Mountain City and Dillard.

The revised concept as presented herein and submitted for approval is consistent with that which is included in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTP) and/or the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

12/18/06

State Transportation Planning Administrator

* RTP not applicable for Rabun County.

OFFICE: Environment/Location

HDK/DRP/dle

Attachments

Distribution:

Brian Summers, Project Review Engineer

Keith Golden, State Traffic Safety & Design Engineer

Angela T. Alexander, State Transportation Planning Administrator

Jamie Simpson, State Transportation Financial Management Administrator

Babs Abubakari, State Program Delivery & Consultant Design Engineer

Russell McMurry, Gainesville District Engineer

Paul Liles, State Bridge & Structural Design Engineer

REVISED PROJECT CONCEPT REPORT EDS-441(28) – RABUN COUNTY

Need and Purpose: US 441 is the primary north-south corridor in northeast Georgia and it is a major tourist route through the Great Smokey and Blue Ridge Mountains. The proposed widening and construction of a median would reduce congestion and enhance the traffic flow, while improving the operational characteristics and safety along US 441.

Project location: Project EDS-441(28) would improve US 441/SR 15 in Rabun County. The project begins along US 441/SR 15 approximately at mile post 12.3 in the northern limit of Clayton. It continues northward along US 441/SR 15 through Mountain City and the City of Dillard. The project would end at the North Carolina state line approximately at mile post 19.7 of US 441/SR 15. The total length of the project is approximately 7.4 miles.

Description of the approved concept: Project EDS-441(28) in Rabun County is proposed to improve US 441/SR 15 from CS 500/Clayburn Road, just inside Clayton's northern limit, northward to the North Carolina state line. US 441/SR 15 is proposed as widening to four lanes with a 20-foot raised median throughout the limits of the project. US 441/SR 15 would be widened on the west side from the beginning of the project to approximately CR 39/Mountain City Road then transition to east widening to approximately File Street. Widening would then shift back to the west to avoid impacting Stekoa Creek east of US 441/SR 15 to approximately Cross Street. From there, this project would transition to east widening entering the southern limits of Mountain City to approximately Johnson Avenue. After Johnson Avenue, widening would become symmetrical to reduce impacts to eligible historic resources on both sides of US 441/SR 15 until approximately 0.5 miles north of CR 2/John Beck Dockins Road and transition to east widening to approximately CS 700/Betty White Cloud Street in the southern limits of Dillard. Widening would then transition to the west to avoid impacting the Sue B. Pennington eligible historic resource property before transitioning back to the east approximately just north of CR 6/Greenwood Road to avoid impacting the Lucy Speed eligible historic resource property. This project would continue widening US 441/SR 15 to the east until transitioning to the west approximately at SR 246/Highlands Road to the ending terminus at the North Carolina state line.

A rural 20-foot raised median typical section would be constructed from the beginning terminus of the project to Mountain City's southern limits and from approximately SR 246/Highlands Road to the North Carolina state line on proposed right-of-way varying between 135 feet and 380 feet. An urban 20-foot raised median typical section would be constructed between Mountain City's southern limits and SR 246/Highlands Road for minimization of social impacts as well as eligible historic resources on both sides of US 441/SR 15. The proposed urban right-of-way varies between 100 feet and 420 feet. The design speed is 45 mph throughout the project. The posted speed limit between Clayton and Mountain City is 55 mph with a vertical and horizontal alignment that is substandard for a 55 mph speed design. It is recommended that a design variance be requested during the design phase that would allow the 45 mph speed design throughout the project. The total length of the project is approximately 7.4 miles.

PDP Classification: Federal Oversight:	Major/Construction Full Oversight (),	_	or Other ()
Functional Classifica	tion: Rural and Urba	nn Arterial	
U. S. Route Number((s): 441	State Route Number(s):	15

Revised Project Concept Report EDS-441(28), P.I. No.:122090 – Rabun County Page 2 of 3

Traffic (AADT) as shown in the approved concept:

Current Year: 2010 AADT: 13,500 – 19,000 Design Year: 2030 AADT: 21,700 – 30,400

Proposed features to be revised:

- **Typical Section:** To accommodate bike lanes throughout the project and avoid impacts to Dillard's shopping district, it is recommended that the typical section be revised.
- **Right-of-Way:** It is recommended that the right-of-way limits for this project also be revised to accommodate the revised typical sections.

Describe the revised feature(s) to be approved:

• Typical Section: The previously approved 20-foot raised median typical sections are recommended to be revised to accommodate bike lanes along US 441/SR 15 Georgia Designated Bike Route. The rural typical sections from the beginning terminus to Mountain City southern limit and from approximately SR 246/Highlands Road to the ending terminus will accommodate bicycle traffic within the 10-foot shoulders. The urban typical sections from Mountain City's southern city limit to approximately CR 220/Betty Creek Road and from approximately CR 6/Greenwood Road to SR 246/Highlands Road will have an additional four feet of pavement in each direction prior to the shoulder point to accommodate bike lanes (eight feet total additional pavement width). The existing 5-lane typical section at the beginning terminus would be extended slightly for business access before beginning the 20-foot raised median. The 20-foot raised median would taper into the existing 5-lane typical section just before the ending terminus at the North Carolina state line for continuity. The speed design remains as previously approved.

The typical section approximately between CR 220/Betty Creek Road and CR 6/Greenwood Road is recommended to be revised to reduce impacts to businesses along US 441/SR 15. The typical section through this section proposes to reduce the 20-foot raised median to an 8-foot raised median with 12-foot outside lanes, 11-foot inside lanes, and include 10-foot sidewalks in the urban shoulders for multi-use by pedestrians and cyclist. It is recommended that a design variance be requested during the design phase for this proposed context sensitive design in Dillard. Approximately from CR 6/Greenwood Road to SR 246/Highlands Road, widening would also shift to the west to avoid impacting the parking areas of businesses along the east side of US 441/SR 15. The Lucy Speed eligible historic resource would be impacted without an adverse affect concurred upon by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Improvements to US 441/SR 15 would then transition and continue from approximately SR 246/Highlands Road as previously approved.

• **Right-of-Way:** The proposed right-of-way would vary between 150 feet and 450 feet for the rural typical section and vary between 130 feet and 428 feet for the urban typical section. The proposed typical section through Dillard has a proposed right-of-way varying between 86 feet and 150 feet. Side road improvements have proposed right-of-way varying between 100 feet and 150 feet.

Other Features Revised: CR 1/Old Wolf Fork Road and CR 5/York House Road would be relocated northward on new location to provide a safer intersection with US 441/SR 15. CR 7/Kelly's Creek Road would be relocated slightly south to its original location and improved for a safer intersection with US 441/SR 15. Franklin Street is proposed to extend to CR 6/Greenwood Road to provide access to businesses along Franklin Street due to the recommended revised typical section along US 441/SR 15 in Dillard. CR 91/FT Black Circle is proposed for extension to River Valley Lane to provide a safer intersection. The bridge over Little Tennessee River would be widened and a new bridge would be constructed over Betty Creek.

Page 3 of 3 Updated traffic data (AADT): Current Year: N/A AADT: N/A Design Year: N/A AADT: N/A 4420 RRB Programmed/Schedule: P.E. 2002 Construction: LR Revised cost estimates: 1. Construction cost including E&C: \$41,674,000 2. Right-of-way: \$ 49,169,422 3. Utilities: 859,000

Is the project located in a Non-attainment area? _____Yes ____X__No.

Recommendations:

Revised Project Concept Report

EDS-441(28), P.I. No.:122090 - Rabun County

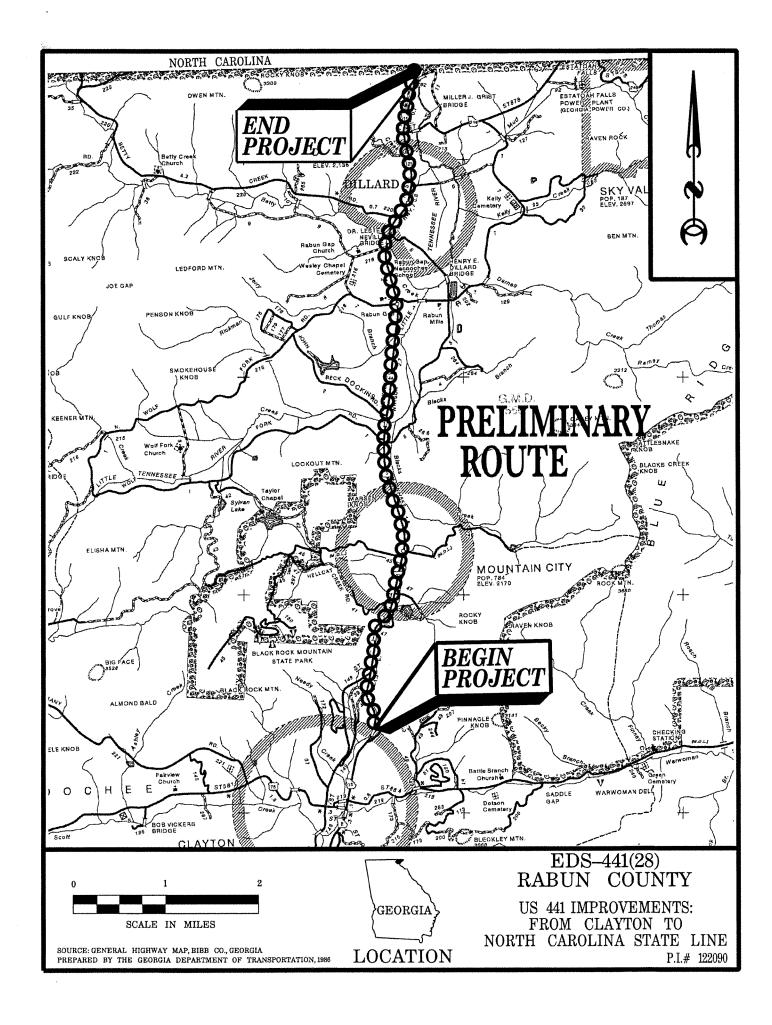
- It is recommended that a design variance be requested during the design phase to provide a median opening at the existing Cross Street intersection with US 441/SR 15 to reduce residential impacts. The proposed concept relocates existing Cross Street slightly south to provide the 660 feet to the next proposed median opening at Playhouse Drive. The existing distance between Cross Street and Playhouse Drive is approximately 560 feet.
- It is also recommended during the design phase the use of retaining walls be evaluated in major cut areas. These wall studies are recommended between George Road and Cross Street along US 441/SR 15 in Mountain City and northwest of SR 246/Highlands Road outside of Dillard.
- It is recommended that the proposed revisions to this concept be approved for implementation.

Attachments:

- 1. Sketch Map,
- 2. Cost Estimate,
- 3. Typical Sections

Concur: Director of Preconstruction

Chief Engineer



CONCEPT COST ESTIMATE

Office of Environment/Location

November 30, 2006 10:15 AM

County(s)	Rabun	
PI Number	122090 Project Number EDS-441(28)	
r i Number	122090 110ject Number EDS-441(28)	
Project Name	US 441/SR 15 Improvements Project L	ength 7.4 Miles
Project Descrip	ption	
North of Clay	ton city limits to Georgia/North Carolina state line.	
Varies between	en 2/3-lane & 5-lane rural/urban typical sections	
Comments		1: - (
	ost estimate for Revised Concept Report approval. Preliminary wall areas in Mountain City & Dillard: Add approx. \$4,609,000 to Subtot	
in major cut a	ireas in Mountain City & Dinard. Add approx. \$1,000,000 to Subtot	an Constitution Cost.
		·
TRAFFIC: Current Des	sign Year 2010 Daily Volume (AADT) 19,000	
Future Desi	gn Year 2030 Daily Volume (AADT) 30,400	
	,	
X	Concept Estimate	
	Typical Section(s) Used in Estimate	Typical Section Length
Rural Wideni	ng: 2 To 4-Lanes with 20 ft Raised Median Widen On One Side	2.40 Miles
Urban Widen	ing: 2 To 4-Lanes with 20 ft Raised Median Widen On One Side	5.00 Miles
Rural New L	ocation: 2-Lanes with 24 ft Pavement	2.20 Miles
		Miles
		Miles
		Miles
Prepared By	Dylan Eagleton	

MAJOR STRUCTURES

Note! All distances are in feet

Bridges: Stream Crossings & Grade Separations

NO	LOCATION	Q T Y	CROSSING TYPE	WIDTH	LENGTH	UNIT COST	TOTAL
1	Little Tennessee River	1	Stream-Widen	15.00	99.0	120.00	
2	Betty Creek	1	Stream-New	102.50	135.0	85.00	1,176,000
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							

Bridge Culverts

NO	LOCATION	TYPE / W x H / FILL	LENGTH	UNIT COST	TOTAL
1	Mountain City	Single / 6 x 4 / 30	100.0	422.11	42,000
2	North of Dillard - State Line Rd.	Single / 5 x 4 / 10	40.0	371.18	15,000
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

Walls

					UNIT	
NO	LOCATION	TYPE	HEIGHT	LENGTH	COST	TOTAL
1	Mountain City-File St.	MSE	7.0	1,250.0	65.00	569,000
2	Dillard-Piggly Wiggly	MSE	25.0	900.0	65.00	1,463,000
3						
4						
5						
6						

MAJOR STRUCTURES SUBTOTAL \$

3,443,000

Typical Section

Rural Widening: 2 To 4-Lanes with 20 ft Raised Median Widen On One Side

Typical Section Length

2.40 **Miles**

Right-of-Way Width

200 Feet

GRADING AND DRAINAGE

- 1. EARTHWORK
 - a. Unclassified Excavation Soil
 - b. Unclassified Excavation Rock
 - c. Borrow Excavation
- 2. MINOR DRAINAGE

	QUANTIT	Y	UNIT COST	TOTAL
	576,000	CY	8.25	4,752,000
	64,000	CY	35.00	2,240,000
		CY		
	2.40	MI	119,182	286,000
GRADIN	\$7,278,000			

BASE AND PAVING

1. GRADED AGGREGATE BASE

- 2. ASPHALT PAVING
 - a. Asph Conc 9.5 mm Superpave
 - b. Asph Conc 19 mm Superpave
 - c. Asph Conc 25 mm Superpave
 - d. Bituminous Tack Coat
- 3. CONCRETE PAVING
 - a. Curb and Gutter
 - b. Miscellaneous
- 4. OTHER PAVING

THICKNESS and SPREAD RATE	QUANTIT	гү	UNIT COST	TOTAL
10"	26,354	TN	28.38	748,000
		1.5		
1 1/2" (165 LB/SY)	8,015	TN	100.25	804,000
3" (330 LB/SY)	8,663	TN	106.15	920,000
4" (440 LB/SY)	7,648	TN	94.35	722,000
	6,471	GL	2.42	16,000
	23,650	LF	32.04	758,000
	2.40	MI	17,005	41,000
'				401,000

BASE AND PAVING SUBTOTAL

\$4,410,000

LUMP ITEMS

- 1. TRAFFIC CONTROL
- 2. CLEARING AND GRUBBING
- 3. EROSION CONTROL
- 4. SIGNING & MARKING
- 5. MISCELLANEOUS

QUANTIT	Y	UNIT COST	TOTAL
2.40	MI	65,043	156,000
58.18	AC	6,000	349,000
2.40	MI	117,160	281,000
2.40	MI	25,577	61,000
2.40	MI	31,355	75,000
LUMP	\$922,000		

UNIT COST

19.53

711.86

327,097

MISCELLANEOUS PROJECT ITEMS

- 1. GUARDRAIL
- 2. GUARDRAIL ANCHORS
- 3. DETOURS
- 4. SPECIAL FEATURES

1. STEERIETERITORES	
Extra concrete sidewalk width through Dillard [5ft x 1972ft (both sides) x 4"]	46,393

MISCELLANEOUS SUBTOTAL

QUANTITY

15,600 LF

48 EA

MI

\$385,000

305,000

34,000

TOTAL

Typical Section

Urban Widening: 2 To 4-Lanes with 20 ft Raised Median Widen On One Side

Typical Section Length

5.00

Miles

Right-of-Way Width

130

Feet

GRADING AND DRAINAGE

- 1. EARTHWORK
 - a. Unclassified Excavation Soil
 - b. Unclassified Excavation Rock
 - c. Borrow Excavation
- 2. MINOR DRAINAGE

QUANTIT	Y	UNIT COST	TOTAL
337,000	CY	8.25	2,780,000
25,000	CY	35.00	875,000
	CY		
5.00	MI	543,291	1,304,000
GRADING AND DRAIL	\$4,959,000		

BASE AND PAVING

1. GRADED AGGREGATE BASE

- 2. ASPHALT PAVING
 - a. Asph Conc 9.5 mm Superpave
 - b. Asph Conc 19 mm Superpave
 - c. Asph Conc 25 mm Superpave
 - d. Bituminous Tack Coat
- 3. CONCRETE PAVING
 - a. Curb and Gutter
 - b. Miscellaneous
- 4. OTHER PAVING

THICKNESS and			UNIT	
SPREAD RATE	QUANTIT	ГΥ	COST	TOTAL
10"	43,464	TN	28.38	1,234,000
1 1/2" (165 LB/SY)	13,552	TN	100.25	1,359,000
3" (330 LB/SY)	11,755	TN	106.15	1,248,000
4" (440 LB/SY)	15,933	TN	94.35	1,503,000
	10,970	GL	2.42	27,000
	80,736	LF	32.04	2,587,000
	5.00	MI	56,997	285,000
!				824,000

BASE AND PAVING SUBTOTAL

\$9,067,000

LUMP ITEMS

- 1. TRAFFIC CONTROL
- 2. CLEARING AND GRUBBING
- 3. EROSION CONTROL
- 4. SIGNING & MARKING
- 5. MISCELLANEOUS

QUANTIT	Y	UNIT COST	TOTAL
5.00	MI	115,304	577,000
78.79	AC	6,000	473,000
5.00	MI	100,119	501,000
5.00	MI	47,818	239,000
5.00	MI	76,197	381,000
LUMP	\$2,171,000		

Typical Section

Rural New Location: 2-Lanes with 24 ft Pavement

Typical Section Length

2.20

Miles

Right-of-Way Width

100

Feet

GRADING AND DRAINAGE

1. EARTHWORK

- a. Unclassified Excavation Soil
- b. Unclassified Excavation Rock
- c. Borrow Excavation
- 2. MINOR DRAINAGE

QUANTITY		UNIT COST	TOTAL	
171,000) CY	8.25	1,411,000	
19,000) CY	35.00	665,000	
	CY			
2.20) MI	36,170	87,000	
CAND DDAINAGE CUDEOTAL			63 173 000	

GRADING AND DRAINAGE SUBTOTAL \$2,163,000

BASE AND PAVING

1. GRADED AGGREGATE BASE

2. ASPHALT PAVING

- a. Asph Conc 9.5 mm Superpave
- b. Asph Conc 19 mm Superpave
- c. Asph Conc 25 mm Superpave
- d. Bituminous Tack Coat

3. CONCRETE PAVING

- a. Curb and Gutter
- b. Miscellaneous
- 4. OTHER PAVING

THICKNESS and			UNIT	
SPREAD RATE	QUANTI	ГΥ	COST	TOTAL
10"	20,673	TN	28.38	587,000
1 1/2" (165 LB/SY)	2,981	TN	100.25	299,000
3" (330 LB/SY)	6,024	TN	106.15	639,000
4" (440 LB/SY)	7,011	TN	94.35	661,000
	4,260	GL	2.42	10,000
		LF		
	2.20	MI	17,255	38,000
•			7	223,000

BASE AND PAVING SUBTOTAL

\$2,457,000

LUMP ITEMS

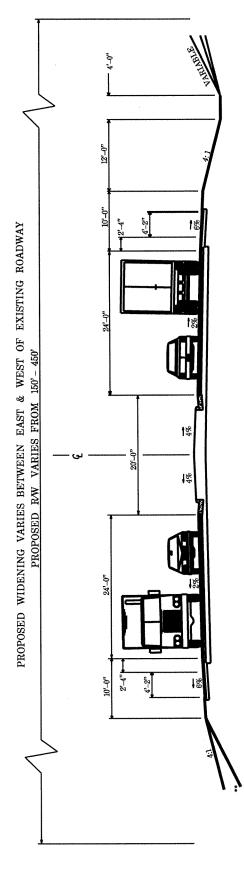
- 1. TRAFFIC CONTROL
- 2. CLEARING AND GRUBBING
- 3. EROSION CONTROL
- 4. SIGNING & MARKING
- 5. MISCELLANEOUS

QUANTITY		UNIT COST	TOTAL	
2.20	MI	10,696	24,000	
26.67	AC	6,000	160,000	
2.20	MI	174,425	384,000	
2.20	MI	8,116	18,000	
2.20	MI	20,085	44,000	
LUMP ITEM SUBTOTAL			\$630,000	

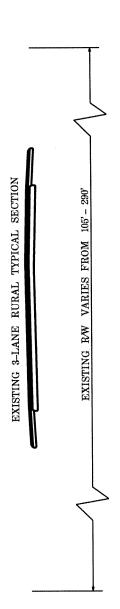
ESTIMATE SUMMARY

TYPICAL SECTION		COST (per mile)					
 Rural Widening: 2 To 4-Lanes with 20 ft Raised Median Widen Or Urban Widening: 2 To 4-Lanes with 20 ft Raised Median Widen Or Rural New Location: 2-Lanes with 24 ft Pavement 							
PROJECT COST	PROJECT COST						
A. MAJOR STRUCTURES	\$	3,443,000					
B. GRADING AND DRAINAGE	\$	14,400,000					
C. BASE AND PAVING	\$	15,934,000					
D. LUMP ITEMS	\$	3,723,000					
E. MISCELLANEOUS	\$	385,000					
SUBTOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST	\$	37,885,000					
ENGINEERING & CONTINGENCIES (10%)	\$	3,789,000					
INFLATIONyr(s) @% per yr							
GRAND TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST	\$	41,674,000					

20-F00T RAISED MEDIAN W/BIKE LANES RURAL SECTION 45 MPH SPEED DESIGN TYPICAL SECTION



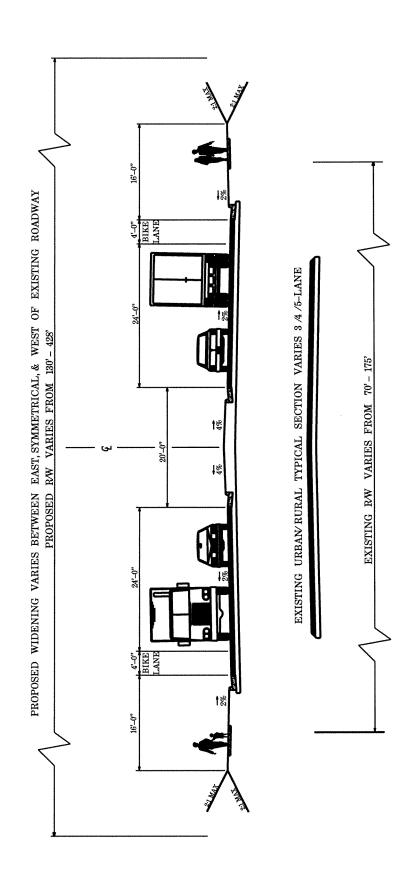
** Guardrail Required when steeper than 4:1 15'-6" shoulder with guardrail



US 44I/US 23/SR 15 IMPROVEMENT EDS-441(28) RABUN CO. FROM BEGINNING TERMINUS TO SOUTHERN MOUNTAIN CITY LIMITS. FROM SR 246/HIGHLANDS RD. TO GEORGIA & NORTH CAROLINA STATE LINE.

NOT TO SCALE

20-FOOT RAISED MEDIAN W/BIKE LANES URBAN SECTION 45 MPH SPEED DESIGN TYPICAL SECTION

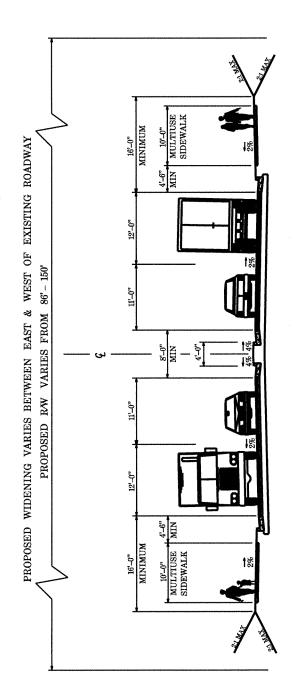


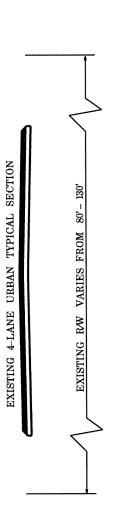
US 44I/US 23/SR 15 IMPROVEMENT EDS-441(28) RABUN CO. SOUTHERN CITY LIMITS OF MOUNTAIN CITY TO APPROX. CR. 220/BETTY CREEK RD. THE FROM

FROM APPROX. CR 6GREENWOOD RD. TO SR 246HIGHLANDS RD.

8-FT RAISED MEDIAN URBAN SECTION (12-FT OUTSIDE LANES & 11-FT INSIDE LANES) 45 MPH SPEED DESIGN TYPICAL SECTION

MULTIUSE SIDEWALKS FOR PEDESTRIANS & CYCLIST

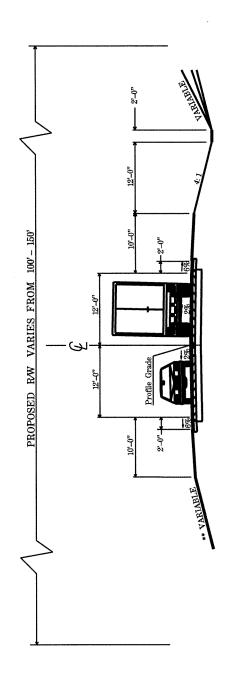




US 44I/US 23/SR 15 IMPROVEMENT EDS-441(28) RABUN CO.

APPROX. BETWEEN CR 220BETTY CREEK RD. & CR 6/GREENWOOD RD.

2-LANE RURAL SECTION 25-35 MPH SPEED DESIGN (RELOCATION & TIE-INS)



** Guardrail Required when steeper than 4:1 15'-6" shoulder with guardrail

US 44I/US 23/SR 15 IMPROVEMENT EDS-441(28) RABUN CO. CS 500CLAYBURN RD, CR 39MOUNTAIN CITY RD, GEORGE RD, CROSS ST, FILE ST, GREEN ACRES DR. EXTENSION TO GREEN ST, CR 1/OLD WOLF FORK RD, CR 5YORK HOUSE RD, CR 7/KELLY'S CREEK RD. WOLF FORK RD, CR 5YORK HOUSE RD, CR 7KELLY'S CREEK KLIN ST. EXTENSION TO CR 6GREENWOOD RD, CAROLINA ST., CR 91/F.T. BLACK CIR. EXTENSION TO RIVER VALLEY LN. CR 11/LAMB RD. FRANKLIN